

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council

Item ID

6927

Agenda Number

22.

Meeting Date:

6/23/2011

Department:

Emergency Medical Services

Subject

Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$3,333 in Injury Prevention grant funds from the Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council, and amending the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Emergency Medical Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance 20100913-002) to appropriate \$3,333 for supply costs related to the Emergency Medical Services' Child Passenger Safety Seat Program.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available from the Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council for the grant period of May 1, 2011 to August 31, 2011. No match is required.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:

Prior Council Action:

For More Information: Ernesto Rodriguez, Director 972-7148

Boards and
Commission Action:

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

BELOW LINE LANGUAGE:

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, motor vehicle injuries are the leading cause of death among children up to age 17 in the U.S. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that the proper use of a child safety seat reduces the risk of fatal injury by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers in passenger cars. However, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration research shows that three out of four child safety seats are improperly installed.

The City's EMS Department currently has multiple monthly car seat check events all over Austin and Travis County. At these events, trained EMS staff will examine child safety seats currently in place; educate caregivers on the proper way to secure their children in a motor vehicle; explain the Texas seat belt/booster seat law; and provide child safety seats to those who are in need.

EMS provides child passenger safety seats and certified child safety seat technicians. This certification is a nationally

recognized program under the direction of Safe Kids Worldwide and the National Highway Traffic Safety Association. The EMS program includes partnerships with two local non-profits, Safe Kids Austin and Scott and White's Safety Stop, as well as other public safety agencies, including the Travis County Sheriff's Office.

The acceptance of these funds will allow EMS to purchase higher weight child safety seats to accommodate children who are too large for a standard seat. Additionally, EMS will purchase signage and safety items such as traffic cones, which assist in program promotion and the creation of a safe structured setting for our events. These items are permanent program assets and will be used at all events.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute to the grant.